

- Dairy cows must give birth to a calf in order to produce milk. Milk production will last about 10 months at which time they are bred again. Their production cycle lasts for 4 to 7 years.

- California has 60 cheesemakers who produce 200 varieties and styles of cheese.

- In California, feed costs represent approximately 50% of the total cost of producing milk.

- One cup of lowfat California milk has 348 mg. of calcium and 10 g. of protein - that's almost one-third of the daily dietary reference intake for calcium.

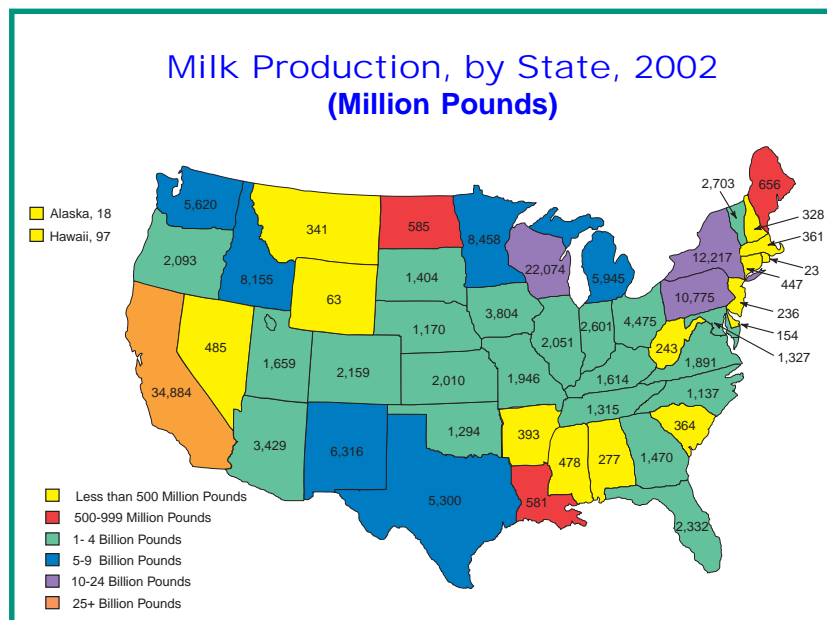
- One ounce of a natural cheese such as Cheddar, Monterey Jack, or Mozzarella contains approximately 20% of a person's recommended daily calcium intake.

- Cheddar, Mozzarella, and Jack cheeses represent 87% of all cheese produced in California.

- It takes 12.5 pounds of milk to make one gallon of ice cream and 10 pounds of milk to make one pound of cheese.

- A cow produces six to eight gallons of milk each day, totaling over 2,000 gallons per year.

- In the U.S., California produces almost one out of every five glasses of milk and one out of every five pounds of cheese.

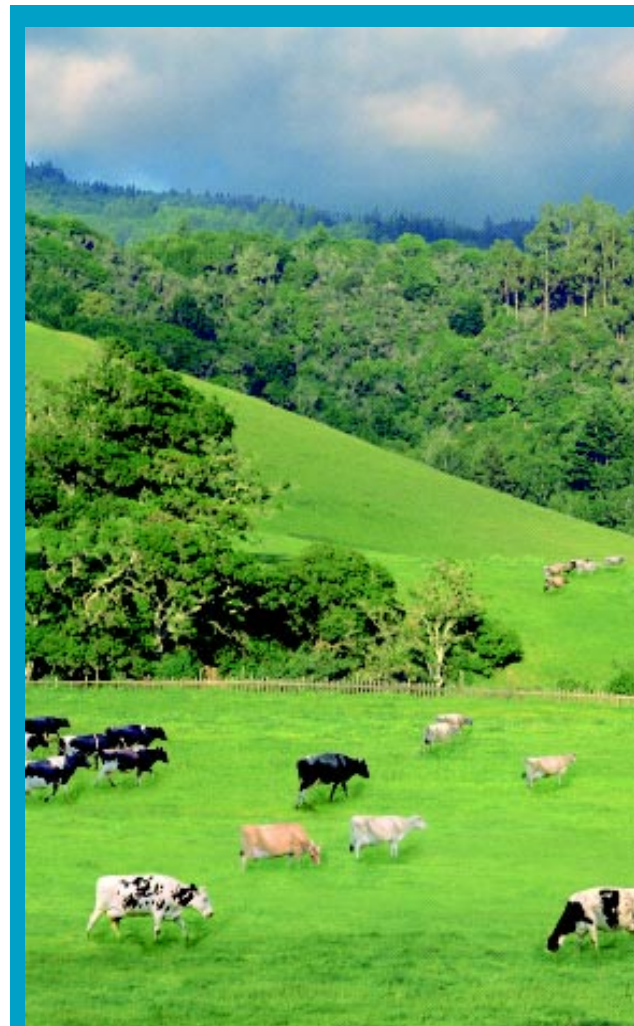


Dairy Marketing Branch
916/341-5988
www.cdca.ca.gov/dairy

The Dairy Council of California
916/263-3560
www.dairycouncilofca.org

California Milk Advisory Board
415/871-6455
www.calif-dairy.com
www.realcaliforniacheese.com

**California Fluid Milk
Processor Advisory Board**
510/883-1085
www.gotmilk.com



A Consumer's Look
at California's
Dairy Industry
2002

A Consumer's Look at California's Dairy Industry in 2002 . . .

California has been the leading state in agricultural production for over 50 years and the sales of milk and cream continue to be an important commodity, generating \$3.8 billion in 2002. California milk and dairy product production continue to roll forward. During a year of uneventful weather patterns and steady (although more costly) energy availability, milk production soared to nearly 35 billion pounds. To put that figure into perspective, consider this — California's milk production in 2002 was greater than the combined milk production of Idaho, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico and Texas. Tulare County, the leading milk producing county in California at nearly 9 billion pounds per year, produced more milk than any of these states. From 2001 to 2002, California's milk production increased by 1.67 billion pounds; the increase alone was greater than the total production of 21 states!

California is more than the leading milk producing state. It also leads all other states in production of butter, nonfat powder, cottage cheese, and ice cream.



California Milk Utilization for 2002

The following summarizes how California Grade A milk was utilized into the production of dairy products in 2002:

44%	Cheese
30%	Butter & Nonfat Dry Milk Products
18%	Fluid Milk Products
4%	Frozen Dairy Products
4%	Yogurt, Sour Cream, Cottage Cheese and other soft products

Rankings

- California ranked No. 1 in the nation in milk production, followed by Wisconsin, New York, and Pennsylvania.
- California ranked fourth in milk production per cow at 21,180 pounds, following Arizona, Washington and Colorado. The U.S. average milk production per cow was 18,571 pounds.
- California continues to lead the nation in the production of butter, nonfat dry milk, cottage cheese, ice cream, and whey protein concentrate.
- California is second in the nation in total cheese production at 1.72 billion pounds, following Wisconsin's 2.23 billion pounds. Many experts predict California will soon be the leading cheese producing state.
- California is the largest producer of Hispanic-style cheese, producing 78 million pounds and 20 different varieties.

Facts & Highlights

- California's total milk production was nearly 35 billion pounds, 20.5 percent of all milk produced in the U.S.
- The five leading counties in milk production, in ranking order were: Tulare, Merced, Stanislaus, San Bernardino, and Kings. Collectively, these five counties accounted for 67 percent of all milk produced in California.
- There are 2,153 dairy farms in California housing 1.64 million milk cows, or approximately one out of every six cows in the U.S. is from California.
- California produces approximately one out of every five pounds of cheese produced in the U.S.
- The average size dairy herd in California is 776 cows per farm.
- California produces more Monterey Jack than any other state. This cheese is considered a "California original," a descendant of a type of cheese produced in the California missions more than 200 years ago.

